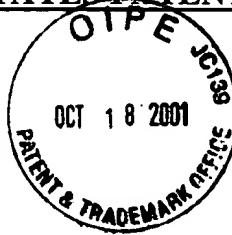


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of

KIHARA et al.

Serial No. 09/925,735

Filed: August 6, 2001

Atty. Ref.: 249-187

Group: 1745

Examiner:

For: MANUFACTURING METHOD OF POSITIVE ACTIVE MATERIAL FOR
ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY, NICKEL ELECTRODE USING THE SAME
MATERIAL AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY USING THE SAME
NICKEL ELECTRODE

* * * * *

October 18, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for
examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraphs in the specification for corresponding
paragraphs previously presented. A copy of the amended specification paragraphs
showing current revisions is attached.